REHABILITATION
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES
SUBSIDIZED HOUSING
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
TRANSPORTATION
COMMUNITY SERVICES
CARE COORDINATION



Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554

August 9, 2011

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

I'm pleased to have this opportunity to comment on the proposed merger between T-Mobile and AT&T. This transaction is on your W11-65 docket.

At Hope Network, we dedicate our efforts and resources to empowering people with disabilities or disadvantages so they can achieve their highest level of independence. We provide services in over 240 locations to people in more than 75 counties, and we serve more than 25,000 people throughout Michigan.

We offer rehabilitation services to those with brain or spinal cord injuries and treatment for those with behavioral health conditions. We also offer specialized services for people with cognitive, developmental, or other physical disabilities, as well as, a variety of support services, like workforce development.

We are proud of our tradition of providing quality to the people we serve and we strive to be advocates of change, innovation, and continuous improvement. To that end, we regularly utilize the latest in wireless devices and communications technologies to improve our services and to help our consumers master skills to help them to live independently. It is vital that the people we serve have the ability to access the technology we use from wherever they are located, and in order to do that, they must have access to wireless broadband. However, many of them live in small, rural, or underserved communities where there is no wireless broadband access. This is problematic for many reasons, and means many consumers have less access to our services and digital health care.

Fortunately, the proposed merger between AT&T and T-Mobile would solve this problem for nearly all of Michigan. Allowing these companies to merge will allow AT&T to go ahead with plans for an expanded, enhanced wireless network infrastructure that would cover the country and bring high-speed broadband to over 97% of the population. Approving this merger will make a big difference for many Michigan residents.

Thank you for your careful consideration.

Sincerely

Terry Mulvihill

External Affairs Director

Hope Network

616.301.8000 [P] 616.301.8010 [F] 755 36th Street, P.O. Box 890 Grand Rapids, MI 49518-0890 www.hopenetwork.org

A United Way Member Agency Programs Accredited by CARF CC: Commissioner Michael Copps Commissioner Robert McDowell Commissioner Mignon Clyburn